



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
New York District

## ***News Release***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Corps sets hearing on Route 92 environmental document**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, will have a public hearing May 20 to receive comments on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Route 92 project proposed by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority in South Brunswick, Plainsboro and Monroe Townships, Middlesex County, N.J.

The hearing will begin at 2 p.m. in the Princeton Ballroom of the Radisson Hotel Princeton, 4355 Route 1 South at Ridge Road in Princeton, N.J. The hearing will break at 5 p.m. and reconvene at 7 p.m., then close at midnight.

The DEIS has been prepared to assist the Corps in evaluating a permit application submitted by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. The application seeks authorization under the federal Clean Water Act to discharge fill into 12.03 acres of waters of the United States adjacent to Devil's Brook, Shallow Brook, and unnamed tributaries, Raritan River basin, in Middlesex County. The NJTA has proposed creating 57 acres of wetlands with a hydrologic connection to a wetland bordering Devil's Brook and preserving 202 acres of wetlands and uplands in the vicinity of Friendship and Miller Roads.

The objectives of the project proposed by the NJTA are to:

- Establish a road system that acts to reserve local streets for local traffic and circulation, while providing a separate high-speed route for traffic moving between US Route 1, US Route 130, and the New Jersey Turnpike;
- Provide a connection to alternative routes for north-south traffic that is currently using US Route 1 in order to relieve congestion and improve mobility while minimizing impacts on the abutting communities; and

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- Reduce the presence of non-local truck traffic on the local roadway network and shift such traffic to a connector highway.

The DEIS evaluates existing site conditions and potential impacts, including indirect and cumulative impacts of the applicant's proposed action, and of other alternative actions identified through the public scoping process and the Corps' analysis of the proposed activities. Determinations on the appropriateness of alternatives will be presented in the final Environmental Impact Statement after comments on the draft document are thoroughly reviewed and considered.

Corps officials note that there has been a great deal of public interest in the project, and that interested parties have already offered many comments for and against the proposal. The Corps welcomes continued public participation in the process, and encourages the public to offer comments regarding the information included in the DEIS.

The DEIS is available for public review at the following locations:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Regulatory Branch, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937, New York, NY 10278, 212.264.6731

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, Library, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor, 290 Broadway, New York, NY 10017 212.637.3185

South Brunswick Public Library, 110 Kingston Lane, Monmouth Junction, NJ 08852, 732.329.4000, extension 286

Plainsboro Public Library, 641 Plainsboro Rd., Plainsboro, NJ 08536, 609.275.2899

Monroe Township Municipal Building, Planning and Environmental Protection, One Municipal Plaza, Lower Level, Monroe, NJ 08831, 732.521.4400

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Information Resource Center, 401 W. State St., Trenton, NJ 08625 (by appointment only), 609.633.2151

The Corps public notice announcing the availability of the DEIS and public hearing on the DEIS, including a map and directions to the hearing location, can be accessed on the District's website at <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/buslinks/regulat/pnotices/199900240.pdf>

The hearing record will remain open until 5 p.m. June 14 for receipt of written comments. Comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Regulatory Branch, ATTN: Route 92 DEIS, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937, New York, NY 10278-0090. Comments also may be sent electronically to [Nan.Route92EIS@usace.army.mil](mailto:Nan.Route92EIS@usace.army.mil).

